

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 02418 081618Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 HEW-06 /017 W

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R 081414Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1903

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 2418

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CFED

SUBJ: SOCIAL SECURITY VALIDATION SURVEY

REF: STATE A-5654

1. EMBASSY HAS NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED SOCIAL SECURITY SURVEY TEAM VISIT AND WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. SUGGEST TEAM COMMENCE ITS SURVEY IN BARBADOS AND THEN PROCEED TO THE OTHER ISLAND GROUPS.

2. WE NOTE THAT SURVEY TEAM WILL BE IN GENERAL AREA FOR ABOUT THREE MONTHS BEGINNING MARCH 1, 1977. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE DATES UPON WHICH MEMBERS OF THE TEAM(S) WILL ACTUALLY BE OPERATING IN THIS CONSULAR DISTRICT. SPECIFICALLY, THE DATES UPON WHICH VISITS WILL BE MADE TO THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, THE LEEWARD ISLANDS (ANGUILLA, ST. KITTS-NEVIS, MONTserrat AND ANTIGUA), THE WINDWARDS (DOMINICA, ST. LUCIA, ST. VINCENT AND GRENADA) AND TO BARBADOS SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO EMBASSY TO PERMIT US TO PROVIDE ESTIMATES OF COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE VARIOUS ISLANDS AND BETWEEN THE ISLANDS OF THE DISTRICT. THE TOURIST SEASON IN THIS AREA RUNS FROM DECEMBER TO APRIL AND DURING THIS PERIOD PRACTICALLY EVERYTHING COSTS MORE THAN IN THE OFF SEASON. WE ALSO NEED THE DATES OF VISITS TO EACH OF THE ISLAND GROUPS SO THAT AUTHORIZATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SEVERAL GOVTS INVOLVED AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS CAN BE REQUESTED.

3. SINCE EMBASSY IS PHYSICALLY SITUATED IN BRIDGETOWN ON ISLAND OF BARBADOS, HOPE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

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PAGE 02 BRIDGE 02418 081618Z

REALIZES THAT FACILITIES SUCH AS WORKSPACE, ACCESS TO

POUCH, COMMUNICATIONS AND CONSULAR FILES WOULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE WHEN TEAM IS ACTUALLY OPERATING IN BARBADOS, ALTHOUGH TELEPHONE, INTERNATIONAL MAIL AND COMMERCIAL CABLE FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN ALL OF THE OTHER ISLANDS AND COULD BE USED TO COMMUNICATE WITH EMBASSY OR WITH BALTIMORE.

4. UPON RECEIPT OF ABOVE INFORMATION, EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE REPLIES BY OM TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN AIRGRAM.
WOOLLONS

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